

Sustainable FERC Project

Policies for a Clean Electric Grid

July 17, 2019

The PJM Board of Managers
c/o Neil Smith, Chair of Search Committee
PJM Interconnection LLC
2750 Monroe Boulevard
Audubon, Pennsylvania 19408

Cc: Dr. Ake Almgren, Susan Riley, Dave Anders, Evelyn Robinson

Dear Mr. Smith,

The undersigned twenty-seven environmental groups, renewable advocates and developers, and consumer advocates are united in our understanding of the urgent threat climate change poses and the knowledge that mitigating climate change will require transformation of the electricity sector. As PJM selects a new Chief Executive Officer, we urge the Board to find an individual capable of leading the organization through the transformations required of PJM as states, consumers, and utilities accelerate their efforts to address the climate crisis.

States, consumers, and municipalities across PJM's footprint have made ambitious commitments to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. These commitments are driving innovation to reduce emissions at lower cost through tools as diverse as state renewable standards, clean power supply contracts, residential distributed energy resources, and demand response. PJM, while continuing to excel at reliability, must become capable of operating a much more diverse system than the one to which it has become accustomed. PJM's new CEO will need an openness to reforms needed to fully realize the potential of all approaches to combatting climate change.

To meet the challenges ahead, PJM must support states' efforts with an openness to change and willingness to examine its markets, operations, and planning functions to ensure that each of these maximizes the benefits of all approaches to mitigating climate change. This will require supporting a variety of planning practices and business models and developing a degree of technical and regulatory agility uncommon in the utility sector. PJM's new CEO will need the skills to manage these functional change, and, critically, the leadership to drive cultural change at all levels of PJM.

PJM's new CEO must promote a culture of purposeful engagement with states to understand their policies and with consumers to avoid unnecessary costs, all while preserving reliability. PJM's new CEO must be a thought leader capable of articulating a vision for the organization's role in this larger picture, ensure fair relationships with neighboring regions, and a listener who can earn the trust and support of all stakeholders in the PJM community and beyond.

Decarbonization will define the next twenty years of the power sector just as deregulation has defined the previous two decades. The Board must prioritize finding a leader who can lead PJM through this transition to a low-carbon electricity sector.

Sincerely,

John Moore
Director
Sustainable FERC Project
moore.fercproject@gmail.com

Donald Zimmerman
President & CEO
Alder Energy Systems, LLC
drzim@alder-energy.com

Joseph Otis Minott
Executive Director and Chief Counsel
Clean Air Council
joe_minott@cleanair.org

Sam Spofforth
Executive Director
Clean Fuels Ohio
sam@cleanfuelsohio.org

Kim Smacziak
Managing Attorney
Earthjustice
ksmacziak@earthjustice.org

Anne McKibbin
Policy Director
Elevate Energy
Anne.McKibbin@elevateenergy.org

Doug O'Malley
State Director
Environment New Jersey
domalley@environmentnewjersey.org

Brian George
Senior Manager
Environmental Defense Fund
bgeorge@edf.org

Sharon Pillar
Pennsylvania Consultant
Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)
pillarsharon@gmail.com

Jeffrey Hammons
Staff Attorney
Environmental Law & Policy Center
JHammons@elpc.org

Mark Bortman
Founder & President
Exact Solar
mark@exactsolar.com

Keith Peltzman
President
Independence Solar
kpeltzman@independencesolar.com

Tom Rutigliano
Senior Advocate
Natural Resources Defense Council
trutigliano@nrdc.org

Tom Gilbert
Campaign Director
NJ Conservation Foundation
tom@njconservation.org

Rachael Belz
Executive Director
Ohio Citizen Action
rbelz@ohiocitizen.org

Melissa English
Deputy Director
Ohio Consumers Power Alliance
menglish@ohiocitizen.org

Miranda Leppla
Vice President of Energy Policy
Ohio Environmental Council
mleppla@theoec.org

Ron Celentano
President, PA Solar Energy Industries
Association
VP, Mid-Atlantic Solar & Storage Industries
Association for PA
CelentanoR@aol.com

Tom Wells
Director of Government Relations
The Nature Conservancy - NJ Chapter
twells@tnc.org

David Masur
Executive Director
PennEnvironment
davidmasur@pennenvironment.org

Rob Altenburg
Director of the Energy Center
PennFuture
altenburg@pennfuture.org

Liz Robinson
Executive Director,
Philadelphia Solar Energy Association
lizhrob2@gmail.com

Robert Freudenberg
Vice President, Energy & Environment
Regional Plan Association
RobertF@RPA.ORG

Casey Roberts
Senior Attorney
Sierra Club
casey.roberts@sierraclub.org

Douglas R. Berry
President & CEO
Solar Renewable Energy, LLC & Achieve
Energy Solutions, LLC
dberry@srenergyllc.com

Mike Jacobs
Senior Energy Analyst
Union of Concerned Scientists
MJacobs@ucsusa.org

Pari Kasotia
Mid-Atlantic Director
Vote Solar
pari@votesolar.org